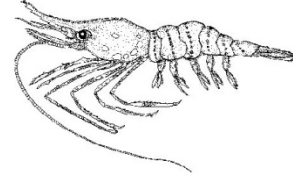


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**FISHERY UPDATE
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
NONCOMMERCIAL POT SHRIMP SEASON OPENS**

The Prince William Sound (PWS) noncommercial shrimp pot season will open April 15, 2012. Legal gear for the fishery is 5 shrimp pots per person with a maximum of 5 pots per vessel. Each pot must meet the mesh size requirements and biodegradable escape mechanism described in regulation and outlined on page 62 of the 2012 Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Regulation Summary. Pots must be marked with a buoy displaying the fisherman's name and address, and the name or AK registration number of the boat used to fish the pots. In addition, there may be no line floating on the water's surface except that which attaches the main buoy to any auxiliary buoy or buoys. There is no bag or possession limit for shrimp.

A person must possess or be named as a household member on a **PWS Noncommercial Shrimp Permit** to participate in the fishery and the permit must be in possession of the person fishing for shrimp. Harvest information must be entered on the permit catch log prior to leaving the fishing grounds. There is no fee for this permit and permits are available at ADF&G offices and from major license vendors in the Anchorage, Seward, Valdez and Whittier areas. Completed permits must be returned to the department no later than October 15. Shrimp permit data are critical to the successful management of the PWS spot shrimp resource

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